

Docket No. BMID 9974 US

D. Johnson  
09/423863  
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420 Rec. PCT/PTO  
15 NOV 1999  
PATENT  
Be-A

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Frederic Donie, *et al.*

Application No.: To Be Assigned

Group No.: To Be Assigned

Filed: November 15, 1999

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: PROCESS FOR THE DETECTION OF HIV ANTIBODIES AND ANTIGENS USED IN IT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments prior to the examination of the above-referenced application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

☐ Please cancel claims 1 to 14 in the original application.

☐ Please add the following new claims:

15. An immunoassay method for detection of an antibody against HIV comprising:
- providing a sample suspected of containing an antibody against HIV,
  - contacting said sample with at least one antigen mixture selected from the group consisting of a mixture of an antigen of gp41 of an HIV1-subtype D isolate and an antigen derived from gp41 of a different HIV1 subtype of the group M and a mixture of an antigen of gp41 of an HIV1-subtype E isolate and an antigen derived from gp41 of a different HIV1 subtype of the group M, and